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ARISTOCRATIC XTRATERRESTRIAL TIME-TRAVELING THIEVES™

CENSORED
CENSORED
NYAH-HA-HA! THE CENSOR STRIKES!
DOOM! DISASTER BEFALL
I'VE GOT A FEELING OF IMPENDING --LIKE SOME HORRID IS ABOUT TO US!
THAT'S EASY FOR YOU TO SAY!
SUCKED
NO! SOMETHING THE WORDS RIGHT OUT OF MY !

"IN THE SIGHTS OF THE CENSOR!"

YES, BIANCA AND I SAVED THE GALAXY FROM DESTRUCTION BY RETURNING THE FORMULA FOR COCA-COLA. YES, WE ALSO SAVED IT FROM A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH BY STEALING REALITY AND KICKING IT OUT OF THIS BOOK. AND YES, WE'RE THE BEST THIEVES IN THE BUSINESS...
BUT, AS MUCH AS FRED AND I ENJOY LISTENING TO YOU LIST OUR WONDROUS ACHIEVEMENTS, COULD YOU COME TO THE POINT? WHY DO YOU, A FELLOW THIEF, WANT TO HIRE US?

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ALL RIGHT, THE BOTTOM LINE IS I'VE TAKEN A JOB I CAN'T COMPLETE! MY PROFESSIONAL REPUTATION IS ON THE LINE AND I NEED BIG TIME HELP.
YOU'VE GOT LOTS OF THIEVES ON YOUR PAYROLL-- WHY CAN'T THEY DO THE JOB?
I'VE ALREADY TRIED THEM --AND THEY ALL COME BACK LIKE BUTCH HERE!
I'M WARM.
I'M HAPPY.
MY BEST THIEF AND NOW LOOK AT HIM. HE'S A CERTIFIED SPACE CADET!
ARISTOCR
XTRATER
CENSORED
VES
TM
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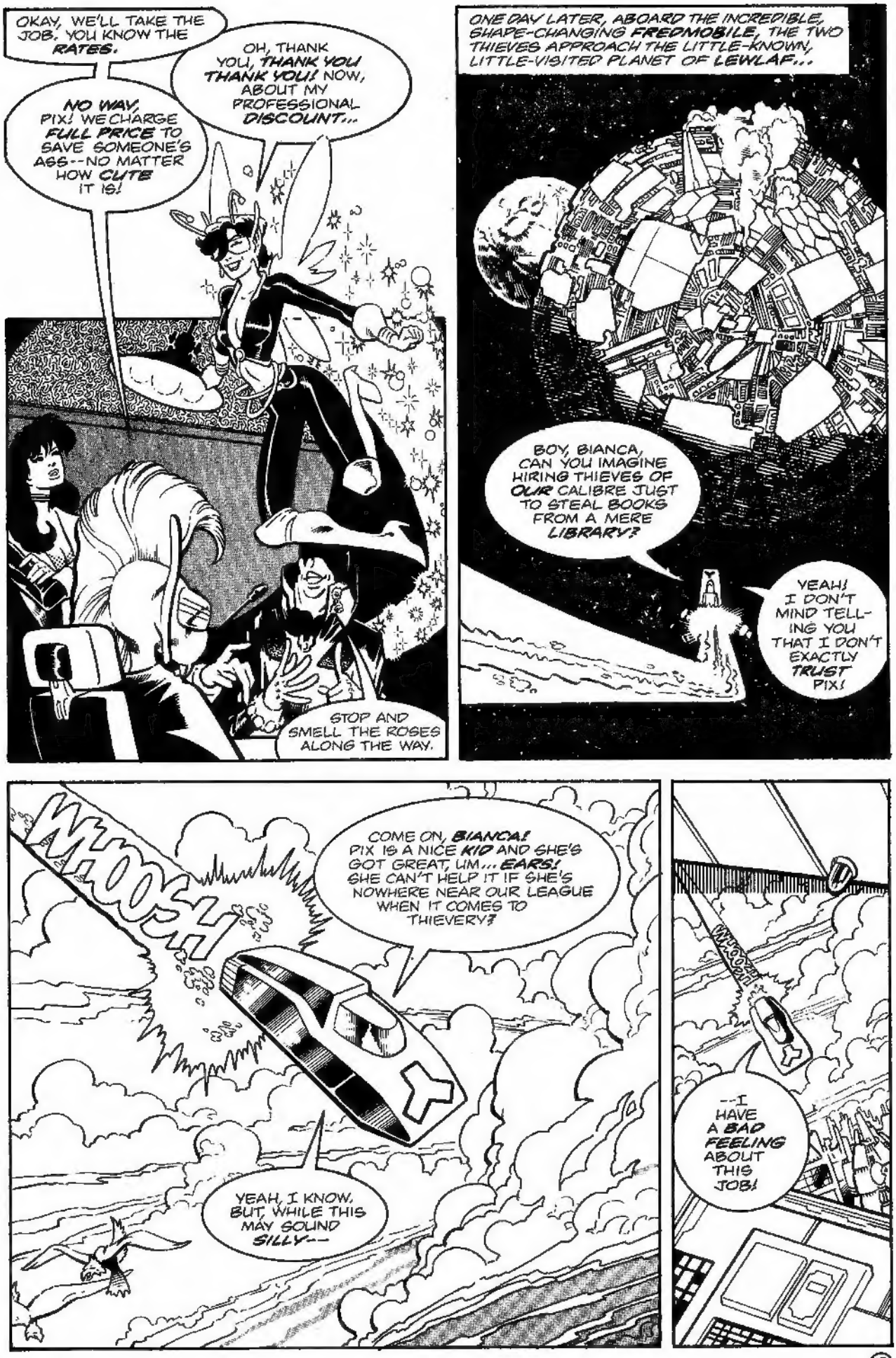
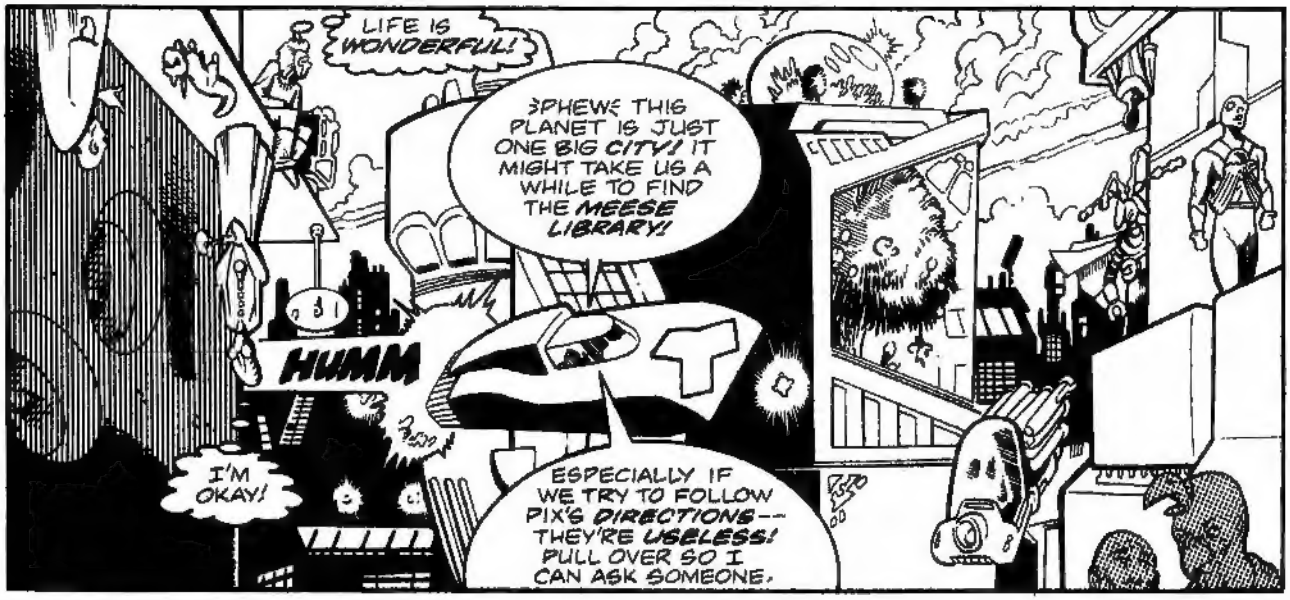
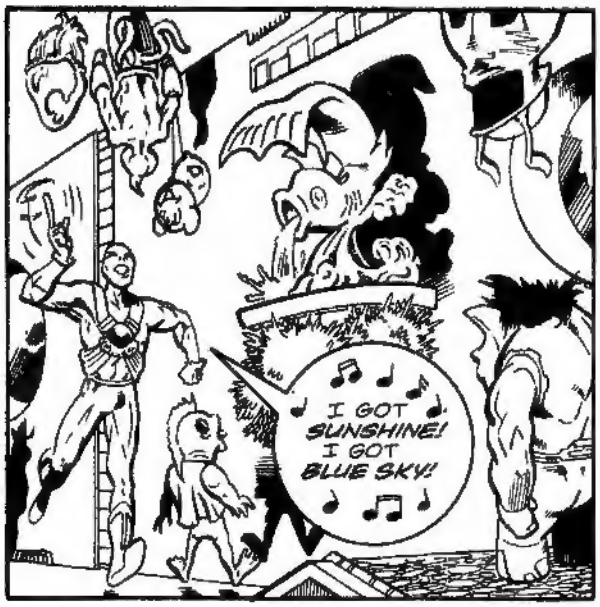
LETTERER--JIM MASSARA
EDITOR--DWIGHT JON ZIMMERMAN
A VOGEL, PROPST, KRAFT CREATION


OKAY, WE'LL TAKE THE JOB. YOU KNOW THE RATES.
OH, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! THANK YOU! NOW, ABOUT MY PROFESSIONAL DISCOUNT...
NO WAY, PIX! WE CHARGE FULL PRICE TO SAVE SOMEONE'S ASS--NO MATTER HOW CUTE IT IS!
STOP AND SMELL THE ROSES ALONG THE WAY.
ONE DAY LATER, ABOARD THE INCREDIBLE, SHAPE-CHANGING FREDMOBILE, THE TWO THIEVES APPROACH THE LITTLE-KNOWN, LITTLE-VISITED PLANET OF LEWLAF...
BOY, BIANCA, CAN YOU IMAGINE HIRING THIEVES OF OUR CALIBRE JUST TO STEAL BOOKS FROM A MERE LIBRARY?
YEAH! I DON'T MIND TELLING YOU THAT I DON'T EXACTLY TRUST PIX!
WHOOSH
COME ON, BIANCA! PIX IS A NICE KID AND SHE'S GOT GREAT, UM... EARS! SHE CAN'T HELP IT IF SHE'S NOWHERE NEAR OUR LEAGUE WHEN IT COMES TO THIEVERY!
YEAH, I KNOW, BUT, WHILE THIS MAY SOUND SILLY--
WHOOSH
--I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS JOB!


LIFE IS WONDERFUL!
PHEW! THIS PLANET IS JUST ONE BIG CITY! IT MIGHT TAKE US A WHILE TO FIND THE MEESE LIBRARY!
HUMM
I'M OKAY!
ESPECIALLY IF WE TRY TO FOLLOW PIX'S DIRECTIONS-- THEY'RE USELESS! PULL OVER SO I CAN ASK SOMEONE.

EXCUSE ME, SIR! WE NEED SOME HELP!
IT'S A WONDERFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD!

CAN YOU PLEASE TELL US HOW TO GET TO THE LIBRARY OF BANNED BOOKS? I'D BE SOOOO APPRECIATIVE!
WILL YOU BE MY NEIGH-BOR?
IT'S WARM TODAY!

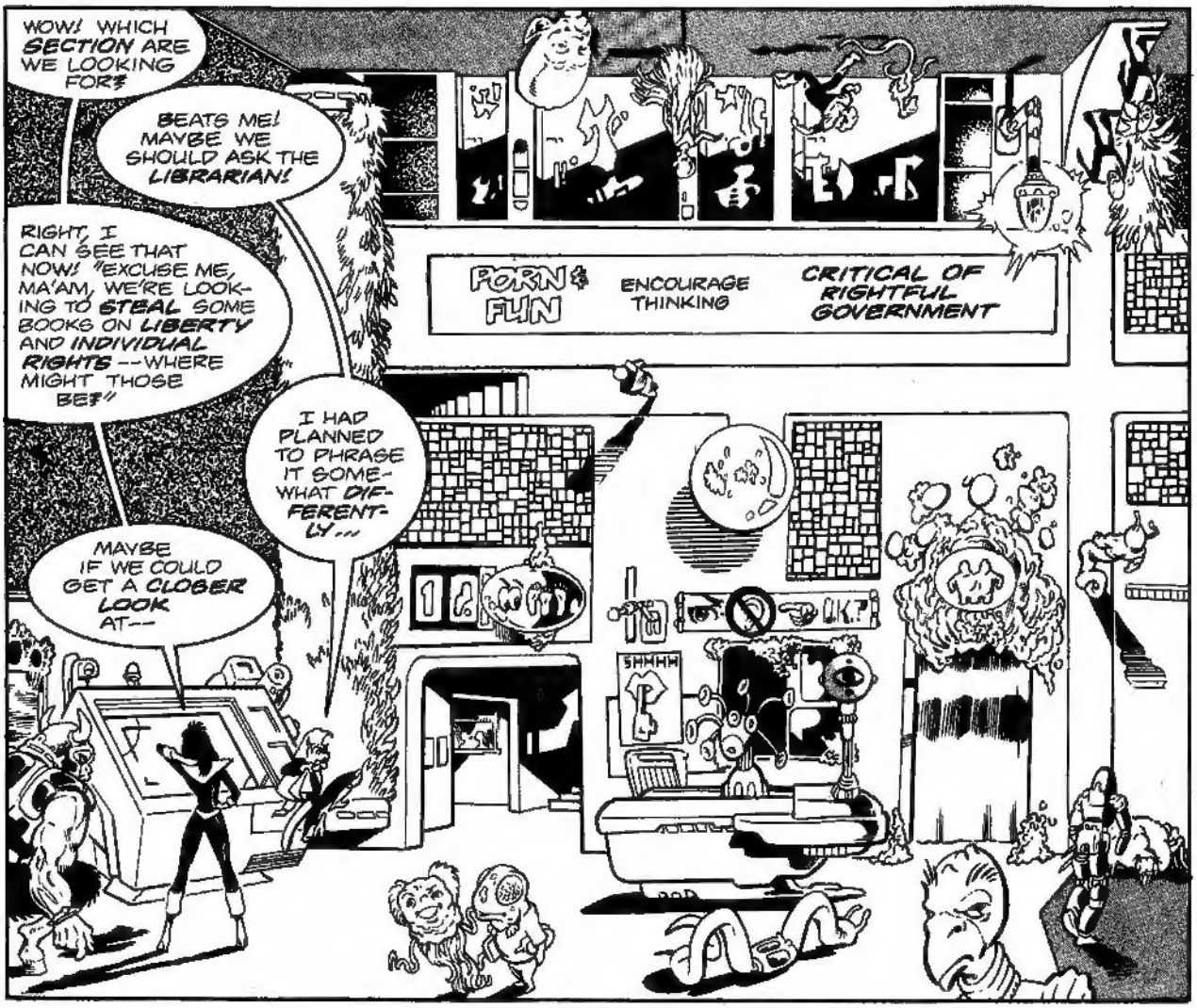

I GOT SUNSHINE! I GOT BLUE SKY!

WELL, THAT SURE WAS STRANGE! DO YOU THINK MAYBE THE LI-BRARY IS NEAR THE LOCAL LOONEY BIN?
HANG ON A SEC --LET ME POP THE TOP.

SO WHAT NOW? IN MY BOOK THAT LAST GUY WAS A CERTIFIED WACKO--NON-VIOLENT BUT STILL WACKO!
THEN WE ASK SOMEONE ELSE! THEY CAN'T ALL BE MINDLESS!
YEAH--I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT. IT'S JUST THAT GUY WAS REALLY OUT OF IT!
HUMM
NO PROB! ASK THAT WOMAN ON THE GRAVI-WALK.
HELLO, HELLO, HELLO!
HI! COULD YOU TELL US HOW TO GET TO THE LIBRARY?
I'M HAPPY!
MAYBE BRAINS ARE OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT ON THIS PLANET!
UH HUH... ANY OTHER BRIGHT IDEAS, FRED?
WANT TO TALK TO HER? WE'VE GOT NOTHING TO LOSE.
WHAT THE HELL...
SECONDS LATER...
OH, HI THERE! LIKE, WHAT'S YOUR SIGN? MINE'S THE FISH!
ISN'T IT A WONDERFUL DAY?

THIS IS STRANGE, FRED -- DECIDEDLY STRANGE!
YEAH... I'M NOT -- AH HA!
AH HA WHAT?
THERE'S THE ANSWER TO ALL OUR PROBLEMS! AN INFORMATION SCREEN!
WARM TODAY ISN'T IT?
OH YEAH --THAT'S A LOT OF HELP!
DESPERATION STRIKES AND THE THIEVES ACTUALLY TRY TO FOLLOW PIX'S DIRECTIONS! BUT...
THESE DIRECTIONS REALLY SUCK! PIX COULDN'T TELL SOMEONE HOW TO FIND HER OWN BUTT IF HER LIFE DEPENDED ON IT!
ANYONE TRULY INTERESTED IN FINDING IT WOULDN'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE, THOUGH!
YOU KNOW WHAT I--
PSSST! HEY--YOU TWO WANNA BUY SOME CONVERSATION?
I GOT EVERYTHING --
--SEX, VIOLENCE--
WHAT THE HELL --?
HOW ABOUT DIRECTIONS?
DIRECTIONS? NOT VERY INTELLECTUALLY STIMULATING, THAT...

HOW ABOUT I START THINGS OFF WITH THIS LITTLE EXCHANGE OF PLEASANTRIES?
AH! AND WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE GOING?
TO THE LIBRARY OF BANNED BOOKS.
WHY ON LEWLAF DO YOU WANT TO GO THERE? NO--NEVER MIND--I DON'T WANT TO KNOW!
JUST TURN LEFT HERE AND DRIVE TILL YOU HIT ROBERTSON STREET. TAKE A SHARP RIGHT THERE AND YOU CAN'T MISS IT!
IF YOU'RE PLANNING A FIRE BOMBING-- UH OH!
WHAT'S WRONG?
WHAT COULD BE WRONG ON A BEAUTIFUL DAY LIKE TODAY? I'M SO HAPPY I COULD SING!
OH, NO! NOT THAT!
TIME TO GO!
SAVED BY A SWIFT SCENE CHANGE, THE THIEVES QUICKLY FIND THEMSELVES ON THE DOORSTEP OF THEIR DESTINATION...
EDWIN MEESE LIBRARY OF BANNED BOOKS
PHEW! THANKS, MARK!
YEAH--HENRY WAS GOING TO LEAVE US THERE FOR THE WHOLE SONG!
SO WHAT NOW, FRED?
IT'S PRETTY STRAIGHTFORWARD FROM HERE--WE GO IN AND STEAL THE BOOKS!
PIECE OF CAKE!


WOW! WHICH SECTION ARE WE LOOKING FOR?
BEATS ME! MAYBE WE SHOULD ASK THE LIBRARIAN!
RIGHT, I CAN SEE THAT NOW! "EXCUSE ME, MA'AM, WE'RE LOOKING TO STEAL SOME BOOKS ON LIBERTY AND INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS --WHERE MIGHT THOSE BE?"
I HAD PLANNED TO PHRASE IT SOMEWHAT DIFFERENTLY...
MAYBE IF WE COULD GET A CLOSER LOOK AT--
PORN & FUN
ENCOURAGE THINKING
CRITICAL OF RIGHTFUL GOVERNMENT
SHHHH
O.K.?

UM, FRED--WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
TAKING A CLOSER LOOK AT THAT SIGN!
BOING
BOING
THAT'S NOT WHAT I--

NOPE--READS EXACTLY THE SAME UP HERE AS IT DOES FROM DOWN THERE! THE LETTERS SEEM BIGGER THOUGH...
HA, HA, HA. VERY FUNNY.

THOSE TWO ARE DANGEROUS --DEAL WITH THEM IMMEDIATELY!
NOW, GET YOUR BUTT DOWN HERE AND LET'S DISCUSS THIS LIKE REASONABLE THIEVES!

MOMENTS LATER...
I DON'T THINK THIS IS THE RIGHT SECTION, BABE! I'M GOING TO CHECK SOMEWHERE ELSE.
GO AHEAD, I'LL COME GET YOU WHEN I FIND THE RIGHT BOOKS!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN WHEN YOU FIND THEM--?
MEANWHILE, BETWEEN THE PANELS...
POOF
NYAH HA HA!
NYAH HA HA!
BZZZ
BZZZ
HELL
SENSE
I'M IN THE RIGHT SECTION AND I'LL BE THE ONE TO FIND THE BOOKS!
WHAT THE DID YOU JUST SAY? TRY MAKING WHEN YOU SPEAK!
NYAH HA HA HA!
WEIRD WORDS SAYING
BZZZ
SOMETHING IS HAPPENING! SOME OF THE I'M ARE DISAPPEARING!
COME ON, BIANCA! PLAINLY! WHAT THE ? NOW IT'S TO ME!
SPEAK
WELL
HAPPENING
GOING
BZZZ
WHAT'S ON HERE?

NYAH HA HA!
BZZZZ
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND A WORD YOU'RE SAYING!
WHAT'S IN COMPLETE SENTENCE
OPEN YOUR MOUTH AND
DON'T TALK TO ME IN THAT TONE OF VOICE
BZZZZ
NYAH HA HA!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING TALK LIKE, BUT DON'T YOU DARE TO ME AGAIN! IS THAT CLEAR?
BZZZZ
NYAH HA HA!
OH, WHY BOTHER? THIS IS USELESS!
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT!

HOW--? WHAT--?
UP!
I READ YOUR THOUGHT BALLOON!
WAAHA-A-A-A!
HEY--NOT BAD, FRED! I'M BEGINNING TO BELIEVE YOU'RE ALMOST AS SMART AS ME!
ALMOST--?! LOOK, TOOTS--
BUT ENOUGH OF THIS MENTAL CHIT-CHAT--LET'S FIND THOSE BOOKS AND CLEAR OUT OF HERE!
OKAY--BUT IF YOU HAVE ANY MORE THOUGHTS ABOUT MY GENIUS, KEEP THEM TO YOURSELF!
OKAY...NOW, WHAT THINK WE CHECK THE INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS SECTION FOR THE BOOKS?
READS GOOD TO ME!
WAA-A-A!
DID YOU HEAR SOMETHING?
LIKE SOMEONE CRYING?
YEAH.
NOPE.

BETWEEN PANELS, ANOTHER THREAT ARRIVES!
SOCIALLY ACCEPTABLE THOUGHTS
WOO! IT'S THEM--- THE BRAIN POLICE!
HORRORS! NON-SOCIALLY ACCEPTABLE THOUGHTS! TO WORK!
IT'S WARM.
LET'S SPL AND FIND BOOKS BIANCA
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, IT'S WARM?
I'M VERY HAPPY NOW!
HUMPH!
I'M OKAY, YOU'RE OKAY!
IT'S A WONDERFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD!
THIS IS NOT COOL, BIANCA!
LIFE IS JUST PEACHY KEEN!
SOMETHING IS GOING WRONG HERE!

WHAT--?!

HUH--?!

IT'S WARM TODAY!

WHAM

GOVERNMENT IS GREAT!

WHAT'S THAT LIGHT BULB MEAN?

IS IT SOCIALLY ACCEPTABLE?

I DON'T KNOW...

HA! TWITS!

LET'S THINK ONLY ACCEPTABLE THOUGHTS!

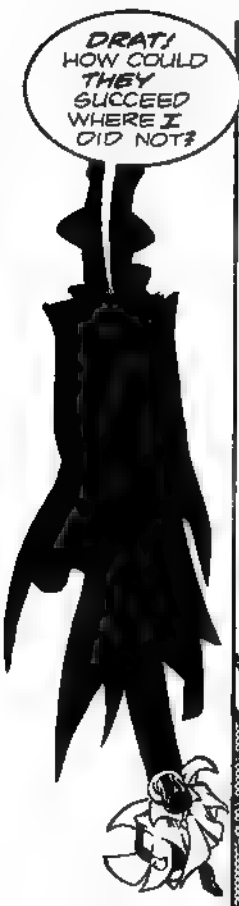
RIGHT--GO WITH THE FLOW!

HAVE IT THEIR WAY!
MAKE MINE MARVEL!
WHAT? HAVE OUR HEROES BECOME MIND-NUMBED VICTIMS OF THE BRAIN POLICE? ARE EVEN HENRY AND MARK POWERLESS TO REVERSE THIS AWFUL TRAGEDY? IT... IT... IT'S WARM TODAY.
COULD THEIR MINDS NOW BE MUSH?

BY JOVE, I THINK THEY'VE GOT IT!

HAPPINESS IN THOUGHT AND WORD.
OH MY, YES--BUT WHAT OF DEED?

WE'VE BEATEN THE CENSOR YET AGAIN!


DRAT! HOW COULD THEY SUCCEED WHERE I DID NOT?

THE TRITE, TRIPE-THINKING THIEVES EXIT THE PLACE OF THEIR APPARENT DEFEAT AND JOIN THE THOUGHTLESS CITIZENS OUTSIDE.
AVOID THE NOID.
SPEND LOTS OF MONEY NOW AND SAVE BIG BUCKS!

CAN THEY TRULY BE LOST TO US?! CAN THEY EVER RETURN TO NORMAL?!
DEATH BEFORE UNHAPPINESS!
LET'S GET HAPPY!
CURSES, FOILED AGAIN!

THE MENTALLY NON-DEXTEROUS DUO DASH INTO THE **FREDMOBILE**, THEIR THOUGHTS ON ANYTHING **BUT** THIEVERY!

CIVIL RIGHTS —WHO NEEDS 'EM?

YOUR VOTE MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

THAT'S THE LAST TIME YOU LOOK GOOD AT *MY* EXPENSE!

OOF!

GOVERNMENT IS OUR *FRIEND!*

READY FOR *ACTION*, BIANCA?

THAT *THOUGHT* DIDN'T LOOK SO GOOD!

WE COULDN'T HAVE *FAILED*, COULD WE?

NAH!

UH OH!

WITH NO CONTROL OVER **MATERIAL OBJECTS**, THE CENSOR AND BRAIN POLICE CAN ONLY WATCH AS THE **FREDMOBILE** ANIMATES!

QUICKLY THE SMALL CAR GROWS LARGER AND **LARGER**, AND THE OBSERVERS FEEL THE FIRST **TWINGES** OF APPREHENSION!

THAT TWINGE BECOMES ACTUAL **FEAR** AS THE SINISTER-LOOKING HOOD ORNAMENT TAKES SHAPE...

BUT ITS EVIL APPEARANCE IS NOTHING COMPARED TO THE PATTERNLESS HAVOC IT WREAKS AS A BATTERING RAM!
I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS!
SMASH SMASH
WHAM
BLAM
650 · 20
HAPPY THOUGHTS FLOWING THROUGH THEIR BRAINS, THE THIEVES LEAVE A TRAIL OF DESTRUCTION BEHIND THEM. MEANWHILE, AT COMIC BOOK CENSORING CONTROL...
THEY'RE HEADING RIGHT AT US!
RELAX, IT'S JUST A VIEW SCREEN, THEY CAN'T GET--
CRASH SMASH
--THROUGH?
HOLY BORK! THEY'RE BREAKING OUT OF THE BOOK!
KRACK

WHERE THE HELL ARE WE? SOME KIND OF LIMBO?
BOING!
NO... NOT EXACTLY...
TAKE A LOOK AROUND US--WHAT DO YOU SEE?
COMIC BOOK PANELS! OUR COMIC BOOK PANELS! WE'RE NOT IN THE BOOK ANY MORE!
FRED WAS RIGHT--THEY HAD LEFT THE BOOK!
RIGHT! THAT'S THE BEST I CAN FIGURE, TOO! HEY --WHAT ARE THOSE THINGS?
BEATS ME! I NEVER THOUGHT ANYTHING ACTUALLY LIVED INSIDE OUR BOOK! BUT--
AND WITH THE MAIN CHARACTERS OUT OF THE BOOK, NOTHING WAS HAPPENING WITHIN IT!
IT'S WARM IN HERE.
THE NOTHINGNESS SPREAD SLOWLY THROUGH THE BOOK AT FIRST, BUT--
OH MY KRAFT! FRED--THAT SNAKE THING JUST COVERED YOUR THOUGHT BALLOON!
--FINDING NO RESISTANCE, NOTHING GREW MORE CONFIDENT!

YEAH--AND LOOK OVER THERE! THAT GUY'S GOT A SACK FULL OF WORDS! AND I'LL BET OUR WORDS ARE IN THERE, TOO!
WITHOUT THE MAIN CHARACTERS TO OPPOSE IT...
WE'VE DISCOVERED WHAT A PAIN IN THE ASS YOU'VE BEEN, TOO! AND I HAPPEN TO THINK A LITTLE REVENGE IS IN ORDER!
CURSES!
GASP! WE'VE BEEN DISCOVERED!
GIVE ME BACK MY WORDS!
YIPE!
...NOTHING BEGAN A MAJOR BID TO TAKE OVER THE BOOK!
WAIT TILL I GET MY HANDS ON YOU, WORD THIEF!
THIEF? THIEF? BAH--I AM NO THIEF! I AM AN INVALUABLE MEMBER OF SOCIETY! I AM A CENSOR!
THE SUPPORTING CHARACTERS TRIED TO FIGHT AGAINST THE ENCROACHING NOTHING--
AND WHERE DO YOU THREE THINK YOU'RE GOING?
SOCIALLY ACCEPTABLE THOUGHTS
RUN AWAY! RUN AWAY!

INVALUABLE? WHAT A CROCK! WHEN YOU STEAL A MAN'S WORDS YOU'RE STEALING HIS SOUL!
--BUT WHAT COULD A REPO MAN, A DIM-WITTED COP, AND THE CONTINUITY INQUISITION DO TO STOP NOTHING FROM RUNNING RAMPANT?
NOTHING!
YOU TELL --ER, THINK-- HIM, FRED!
WHOA, WORM! COME BACK HERE!
THE I.R.S. AGENT CALMLY OBSERVED THE ONSLAUGHT OF NOTHINGNESS--
--COUNTING THE VARIOUS METHODS OF IMPOSING TAXES ON IT.

WHEN WE STEAL, THE PERSON WE STEAL FROM REMAINS THE SAME! YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND, LEAVE MENTAL VEGETABLES WHEN YOU STEAL!
POW
HE COUNTED 13,426 DIFFERENT METHODS BEFORE THE NOTHINGNESS OVERWHELMED HIM, TOO.
YO, BABE --WE'VE GOT WORDS BACK!
Oooooh...
SOME MINOR CHARACTERS TRIED TO CALL OUT FOR HELP--
IT'S ABOUT TIME! I'VE GOT THESE THOUGHT-STEALING SNAKES IN THE BAG, BY THE WAY!

GOOD-- LET'S TAKE THESE SORES ON THE FACE OF COMICDOM AND GET OUT OF HERE!
--BUT NOTHING CRUSHED THEM AND THEIR CRIES WENT UNHEARD BETWEEN THE PANELS!
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH THEM?
YOU'LL SEE!
NOTHING WAS IN COMPLETE CONTROL!
BUT FIRST, I'VE GOT A LITTLE SIDE TRIP I WANT TO MAKE!
SET THE WAY-BACK MACHINE FOR PAGE 9-- I'VE GOT A MESSAGE TO DELIVER!

AND, SOON...

WHOOSH

NYAH HA HA!

WITH NOTHING TO STAND AGAINST THEM, COULD EVEN THE X-THIEVES RESTORE INTEREST IN THE BOOK?

YO, CENSOR! YOU'RE GOING TO GET THE CRAP BEATEN OUT OF YOU IN A FEW PAGES!

HUH--?

SECONDS AFTER NOTHING HAS CONSOLIDATED ITS HOLD ON THE BOOK--

FRED AND BIANCA BURST BACK INTO THE BOOK! FACED WITH MAIN CHARACTERS, NOTHING PROVED POWERLESS! WITHOUT EVEN A CONSCIOUS THOUGHT, THE THIEVES DISMISSED NOTHING, AND INTEREST WAS RESTORED TO THE BOOK!

AND, SOON AFTER THAT...

WHAT ARE WE DOING IN THIS PRIMITIVE PLACE, FRED?

WHOOSH

GRONK

GRONK

NOT MUCH-- JUST DROPPING OFF SOME EXCESS BAG-GAGE!
YIKES!
YOUCH!
BOING!
BOUNCE!
GRONK
GRONK
FOOD
GRONK?
FOOD?
WE CAN'T HAVE PEOPLE READING WORDS LIKE THAT!
NOR IS THAT THOUGHT SOCIALLY ACCEPTABLE!
I'M HAPPY
OKAY, GUYS--
I'M HAPPY!
LET'S EDIT!

GRONK
I'M HAPPY!
FOOD
FOOD
I'M HAPPY!
OUR BALLOON --IT WON'T STICK!
GRONK
FOOD
I CAN'T CENSOR THEM!
THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT!
OUR FAULT?
YES, I--
IT'S WARM!
MUFF! MUFF!
THAT'LL TEACH HIM!
YEAH-- WHY DIDN'T WE [illegible] OF EARLIER?
I'M HAPPY!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?

MEANWHILE, BACK AT FRED AND BIANCA'S OFFICE...
WHY DO I HAVE TO COME INTO YOUR CAR --CAN'T YOU YOU JUST BRING THE BOOKS OUT?
NOT REALLY ...YOU'LL SEE WHY IN A SECOND!
ALL RIGHT, BUT THIS BETTER BE GOOD!
IT'S GOOD, ALL RIGHT!
YOU SEE, WE DIDN'T JUST STEAL A FEW BOOKS!
WOW!
WE STOLE THE WHOLE DAMN LIBRARY!